

REMARKS:

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 12 and 19 are amended.

New claim 21 is added.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 12-15 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2002/0085914 ("Chen") is requested. It is believed that amended independent claims 12 and 19, and dependent claims 13-15, are not anticipated by Chen for the reasons given below.

Regarding claim 12, Chen does not disclose or suggest "the drive member having ... a plurality of coupling portions" in combination with "the resilient members each having a coupling portion configured to engage an associated coupling portion of the drive member." For example, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the applicant's drive member 18 has a plurality of boss-receiving cavities 62 and each resilient member 22 has a boss 60 configured to engage an associated boss-receiving cavity 62 in the drive member 18.

Regarding claim 19, Chen does not disclose or suggest "an insert having a plurality of outwardly-facing surfaces configured to engage associated inwardly-facing surfaces of the inner hub of the propeller when the insert is mated with the propeller." Instead, as shown in Figs. 1-3, Chen's inner housing 22, which the Examiner refers to as the insert, is integrally formed with his outer housings 24 with radial spokes 38a, 38b, and 38c interconnecting the two housings 22, 24.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 12 and 19, and dependent claims 13-15, are not anticipated by Chen, and hence withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection thereof is respectfully requested.

New claim 21 depends from claim 12, and is, therefore, allowable over Chen for the reasons given above in support of claim 12.

For the foregoing reasons, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that all rejections and objections be withdrawn and the claims be passed to allowance.

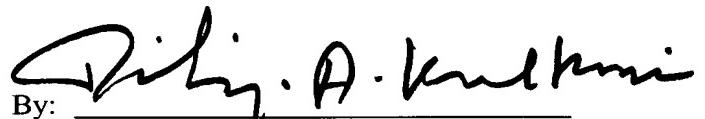
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees including extension of time, excess claim fees, or any other fees other than issue fees, or to credit any overpayment of fees, to the account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with

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Reply to Office action of 24 June 2005

reference to file 3282-72278. The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned to discuss this case.

Respectfully,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP.

  
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